

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10





1200 SIXTH AVENUE SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101

NOV 04 1988

REPLY TO ATTN OF:

50-125

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Stanford J. Nudelman S.J. Nudelman and Son, Inc. 2707 N.W. Nela Street Portland, Oregon 97210

Re: Toxic Substances Control Act Docket No. 1088-09-33-2615

Dear Mr. Nudelman:

Enclosed you will find a Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing. A copy of the regulations and Rules of Practice applicable to this proceeding are also enclosed. You are hereby advised to read this document carefully and communicate your answer within the time limit specified.

The Complaint alleges that your company, S.J. Nudelman and Son, Inc., violated the disposal, storage, marking, and recordkeeping provisions of the PCB Regulations issued pursuant to the Toxic Substances Control Act. Accordingly, it is of considerable importance that you attend to this matter forthwith.

You are allowed twenty (20) days to formally answer the complaint unless you request and receive a written extension of time. However, we would like to informally discuss the alleged violations and proposed penalties. Such discussions may result in settlement which would make the filing of a formal answer unnecessary.

Deborah Hilsman, Attorney, is knowledgeable about this subject and can be reached at (206) 442-1810.

Sincerely,

Kenneth D. Feigner, Chief

Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch

Enclosures

cc: John A. Foley, EPA Headquarters

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, SO-125 Seattle, Washington 98101

THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,

Complainant,

VS.

S.J. NUDELMAN AND SON, INC.,

Respondent.

NO.1088-09-33-2615

NOTICE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS; NOTICE OF EPA COMPLAINT; AND NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING, AND FOR SETTLEMENT MEETING

THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR EPA REGION 10 TO THE FOLLOWING RESPONDENT:

S.J. Nudelman and Son, Inc.

2707 N.W. Nela Street

Portland, Oregon 97210

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE AS FOLLOWS:

- Administrative proceedings have been commenced against you by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA").
- You are hereby NOTIFIED of, and served with, the ATTACHED TRUE COPY of a COMPLAINT filed in these proceedings. It explains EPA's claims for civil penalties proposed to be adjudged against you.
- The signed original of the attached COMPLAINT is filed with the EPA Regional Hearing Clerk, SO-125, Park Place Bldg., 1200 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, King County, Washington, 98101, Phone No. (206) 442-1141.
- The ATTACHED COMPLAINT is a claim by EPA for civil penalties to be assessed against you. Adjudicative proceedings to that end are controlled by the "Consolidated Rules of Practice" (copy attached to the Complaint) appearing in Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 22.
 - You have a RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:
- To contest any material allegation of the attached penalty COMPLAINT which you genuinely deny; and/or
- To contest the amount and appropriateness of the civil penalties proposed in the COMPLAINT.

However, TO OBTAIN A HEARING YOU MUST FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE to the COMPLAINT called an "Answer."

NOTICE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS - Page 1 of 2

6. YOU HAVE ONLY TWENTY (20) CALENDAR DAYS (if you choose to respond) from the day you receive this Notice within which to file a WRITTEN RESPONSE to the attached COMPLAINT. Such a written response or "Answer" must be filed by having it DELIVERED ON TIME to the EPA Hearing Clerk (address in paragraph 3). Copies of all papers filed by you must be delivered at the same time (by mail or otherwise) to the EPA attorney whose name appears below in paragraph 10.

7. ANY SUCH WRITTEN RESPONSE YOU FILE TO THE COMPLAINT MUST:

A. Request a hearing on the Complaint (or your right to request a hearing on the Complaint is deemed waived); and

B. Contain clear and direct admissions, denials, and/or explanations with respect to each of the allegations of the Complaint; and

- C. Contain a definite statement of any facts which you contend constitute grounds for defense against the penalty liability stated in the Complaint; and
- D. Contain a concise statement of all material facts relating to allegations in the Complaint which you intend to place in issue at a hearing.
- 8. IF YOU FILE A LATE WRITTEN RESPONSE, OR IF YOU OMIT ENTIRELY FILING ANY WRITTEN RESPONSE, YOU ARE SUBJECT TO THE ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF DEFAULT on the Complaint. After an order of default, penalties can be adjudged and imposed on you without any further notice to you.
- 9. AN INFORMAL SETTLEMENT MEETING can be held at your request. You may discuss there:
 - A. Whether or not the violations alleged truly occurred; and/or
- B. The amount and appropriateness of any civil penalty considering: the size of your business, the gravity of any such violations, the effect of civil penalties on your ability to continue in business, and any other appropriate factors.

Such a meeting might resolve matters by a settlement which would make a hearing unnecessary.

- 10. In order to arrange an informal settlement meeting you must contact Deborah Hilsman, EPA attorney, at (206) 442-1810, 1200 Sixth Avenue, M/S SO-125, Seattle, Washington 98101, not later than twenty (20) calendar days from receipt hereof.
- 11. PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an EXTENSION OF TIME to make and file your written response may be negotiated with the EPA attorney named above. If an agreement is reached to extend time, a written stipulation and an agreed order will be entered in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §22.16(c).

ISSUED AT SEATTLE this 4 day of November, 1988.

KENNETH D. FEIGNER Chief Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
BEFORE THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR
Region 10
Seattle, Washington

In the Matter of:

S.J. Nudelman and Son, Inc.,

Respondent.

DOCKET NO. 1088-09-33-2615

COMPLAINT

I.

JURISDICTION

1. This is an administrative action instituted pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (hereinafter "TSCA"), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), for the assessment of a civil penalty. The complainant is Region 10, United States Environmental Protection Agency (hereinafter "EPA"). Complainant has reason to believe that the above-named respondent has violated federal regulations addressing the use and/or disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (40 C.F.R. Part 761 promulgated under Section 6 of TSCA), and thereby has violated Section 15 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614.

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FINDINGS AND VIOLATIONS

2. On August 4, 1988, an EPA inspection was performed at S.J. Nudelman and Son, Inc., 2707 N.W. Nela-Street, Portland Oregon. The purpose of the inspection was to determine compliance with the TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2601, et seq., and specifically the PCB regulations pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 761. The inspection disclosed the following violations:

VIOLATION ONE

- 3. REGULATION DISPOSAL 40 C.F.R. § 761.60(d)(1) and (2) states that: (1) spills and other uncontrolled discharges of PCBs at concentrations of 50 ppm or greater constitute the disposal of PCBs; and (2) PCBs resulting from the cleanup and removal of spills, leaks, or other uncontrolled discharges must be stored and disposed of in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 761.60(a). Disposal of PCBs in any other manner constitutes the improper disposal of PCBs.
- 4. <u>REQUIREMENT</u>: If a transformer does not have a nameplate or if there is no information available to indicate the type of dielectric fluid in it, the transformer must be assumed to be a PCB Transformer unless it is tested and found to contain less than 500 ppm. Refer to 44 Federal Register, May 31, 1979, page 31517.

5. <u>VIOLATION ONE</u>: A transformer identified as General Electric, serial number 6408310 Typek, 50,000 v 115/230, was leaking at the time of the inspection. There was no indication what type of dielectric fluid the transformer contained and it is assumed to be a PCB Transformer.

VIOLATION TWO

- 6. REGULATION DISPOSAL: 40 C.F.R. § 761.60(a)(2)

 states that mineral oil dielectric fluid from PCB-Contaminated Electrical

 Equipment containing a PCB concentration of 50 ppm or greater, but less than

 500 ppm, must be disposed of in one of the following:
 - (i) In an incinerator that complies with § 761.70.
 - (ii) In a chemical waste landfill that complies with § 761.75 if information is provided to the owner of the chemical waste landfill that shows that the mineral oil dielectric fluid does not exceed 500 ppm PCB and is not ignitable waste as described in § 761.75(b)(8)(iii).
 - (iii) In a high efficiency boiler that complies with the criteria contained in \$761.60(a)(2)(iii)(A).
- 7. REGULATION: 40 C.F.R. § 761.3 states that oil filled electrical equipment other than circuit breakers, reclosers, and cable whose PCB concentration is unknown must be assumed to be PCB-Contaminated Electrical Equipment.

8. <u>VIOLATION TWO</u>: There were many electrical bushings on site which came from capacitor potential transformers. The bushings --- imputed PCB-Contaminated electrical equipment --- had been drained of the oil in them. The oil, assumed to be PCB-Contaminated, was not disposed of in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 761.60(a).

VIOLATION THREE

- 9. <u>REGULATION STORAGE</u> 40 C.F.R. § 761.65(b) requires that any facility used for the storage of PCBs and PCB Items designated for disposal have:
 - adequate walls and roof to prevent rainwater from reaching the stored PCBs and PCB Items;
 - 2) adequate floor constructed of continuous smooth and impervious materials with a continuous curbing a minimum six inches high; and
 - 3) no drain valves, floor drains, or other openings that would permit liquids to flow from the curbed area.
- 10. <u>VIOLATION THREE</u>: The area where the imputed PCB transformer that is the subject of Violation One was stored did not meet the requirements for a PCB storage for disposal area in that there were no walls and roof to prevent rainwater from reaching the transformer, the floor was not constructed of materials impervious to PCBs, and there was no continuous curbing providing secondary containment.

11. <u>REGULATION - MARKING</u>: 40 C.F.R. § 761.40 requires that all PCB Containers, PCB Transformers, Large PCB Capacitors, and PCB storage for disposal areas be marked in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 761.45. In general, a 6 inch by 6 inch PCB label is required, although the label may be reduced in size proportionately to a minimum of 2 inches by 2 inches for equipment too small to accommodate the standard 6 inch by 6 inch label.

12. <u>VIOLATION FOUR</u>: The imputed PCB transformer that is the subject of Violation One was not marked with the required PCB label at the time of the inspection.

13. <u>VIOLATION FIVE</u>: The area where the imputed PCB Transformer that is the subject of Violation One was stored was not marked with the required PCB label at the time of the inspection.

VIOLATION SIX

14. REGULATION - RECORDS & MONITORING: 40 C.F.R. § 761.180(a) requires that, beginning July 2, 1978, facilities using or storing at one time at least 45 kilograms (99.4 pounds) of PCBs contained in PCB Container(s), or one or more PCB Transformers, or 50 or more PCB Large High or Low Voltage Capacitors, develop and maintain records on the disposition of the PCBs and PCB Items. The records shall form the basis of an annual document prepared by July 1, covering the previous calendar year.

15. <u>VIOLATION SIX</u>: The facility failed to prepare and maintain annual reports on the disposition of PCBs and PCB Items.

III.

PROPOSED CIVIL PENALTY

16. Section 16 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, 40 C.F.R. § 761, et seq., authorize a civil penalty of up to \$25,000.00 per day for each violation of TSCA. Based on the facts given in Section II above, the nature, circumstances, extent and gravity of the above-cited violations, and degree of culpability, the following penalties are hereby proposed:

| | Regulation | Requirement | Penalty Amount |
|----|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 1. | 40 C.F.R. § 761.60(d)(1) & (a) | Disposal | \$ 5,000 |
| 2. | 40 C.F.R. § 761.60(a)(2) | Disposal | \$ 5,000 |
| 3. | 40 C.F.R. § 761.65(b) | Storage | \$ 1,500 |
| 4. | 40 C.F.R. § 761.40 | Marking | \$ 1,500 |
| 5. | 40 C.F.R. § 761.40 | Marking | \$ 0* |
| 6. | 40 C.F.R. § 761.180(a) | Records | \$ 1,000 \$14,000 |

^{*}Same type, same location as Violation 4

17. Payment of such penalty shall be by check made payable to the United States Treasurer, remitted to the following:

Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 (Regional Hearing Clerk)
P.O. Box 360903M
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15251

2 | with a copy sent to:

Regional Hearing Clerk

Office of Regional Counsel

1200 Sixth Avenue, SO-125 Seattle, Washington 98101

Environmental Protection Agency

ISSUED AT SEATTLE this 4th day of November, 1988.

Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch

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